TITLE: OTOME SENSOU / DIVCI VALKA
CHAPTER 16: CASTLE ON THE HEIGHTS
SCANLATION: STRAWEVE.WORDPRESS.COM
RAW: ANON

DISCLAIMER: THIS SCANLATION WAS PRODUCED
BY SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS NEITHER JAPANESE
(THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE OF THIS WORK) NOR FRENCH
(THE EDITION WHICH TH SCANLATION IS PRIMARILY
BASED ON) EAD THIS MANGA
SO BADLY, FRENCH VERSION
AND GOOG HELL OUT OF IT.

THE FOLLO NT THE RESULT
OF WHA TO FIND ONLINE, AND
THING MOR SAID, THIS HAS BEEN
OUR OF LO E HOPEFULLY, I'VE BEEN ABLE
TO ADEQUATELY CONVEY THE GIST OF THE STORY.
ENJOY!

PS: SUPPORT THE AUTHOR!
VOLUMES 1-4 NOW AVAILABLE IN FRENCH!

ŠÁRKA, ISN'T THAT THE BOAT!?
GET WELL SOON!
FRIENDS FOREVER!
GABRIELA!
GABRIELA!
THE ISLET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RIVER HAS AN OLD FORT...
ŠÁRKA? IS THAT YOU...
WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU!

WE WILL SEND THEM FOOD AND REMEDIES.
IF THEY ARE PROPERLY TREATED, A THIRD OF THEM COULD RECOVER, MAYBE EVEN HALF!
THEY HAVE TO BE ISOLATED IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE DISEASE FROM SPREADING!
THOSE STRICKEN BY THE PLAGUE WILL HAVE TO LIVE THERE UNTIL THE EPIDEMIC ENDS.
IF WE ALL PRAY, GOD WILL SAVE THEM!
DON'T DESPAIR, ŠÁRKA.
GREAT TIME FOR A JOKE!
YOU GO TO THE BATHS, YOU PIG!
AND WHAT'S MORE, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE CLEANLINESS TO WARD OFF INFECTION! SO IF WE ALL GO TO THE BATHS...
FORGIVE ME, GABRIELA...
IT'S MY FAULT...
I WAS THE ONE WHO ASKED YOU TO GO OUTSIDE WITH ME DURING THE EPIDEMIC...

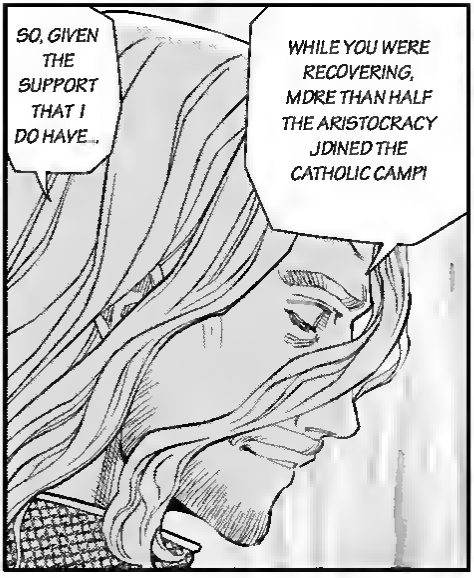
PREPARE FOR BATTLE!
THAT'S THE ALARM SOUNDING!
TOOT
TOOT
DON'T JUST STAND AROUND!
GET IN POSITION!
ゴロロ
FIRST GROUP, FORM A DEFENCE PERIMETER!
ガラララ

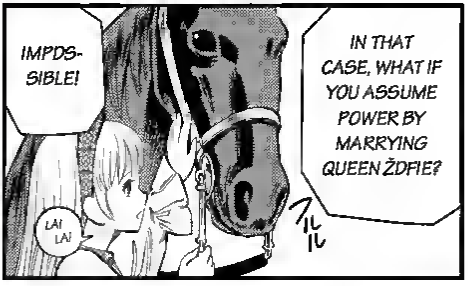
GUNS AND CROSSBOWS, TAKE AIM...
THEY'RE HERE!
HEY, WHAT ARE YA DOIN'? GIVE US A HAND!
PUSH THE WAGONS CLOSER!
WHAT!?
FIRE !!
HHHHHNNN

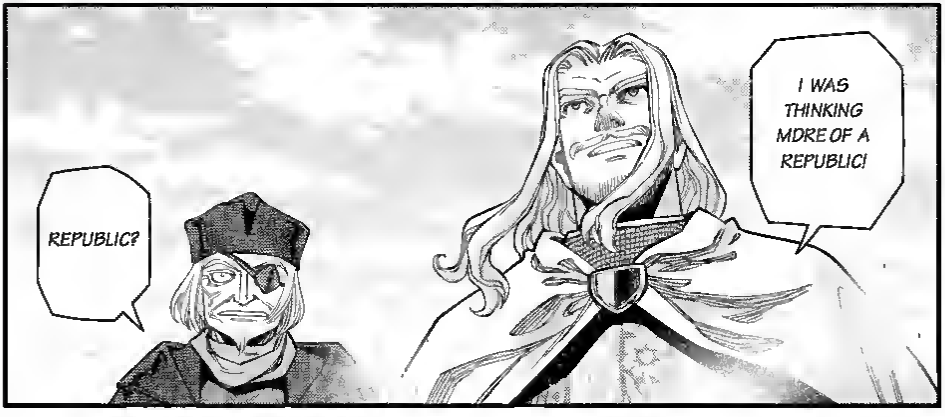
WHERE ARE MY PEOPLE? FETCH ME WATER!
B-BUT YOU CAN'T LEAVE YOUR POST!
LIKE I GIVE A DAMN!
SILENCE, PEASANT!
HEY, NO CHIT-CHAT! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO KEEP IT REAL!
YOU SHOULD REALLY GET YOUR HORSE USED TO THE NOISE, OR YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE IN AN ACTUAL FIGHT!
HMM... WHAT DO YOU THINK, ŽIŽKA?

IT'S LIKE THEY ATE SOMETHING BAD AND ALL HAD A TUMMY ACHE..
UH, WELL... THEY SORTA LOOK MORE AWKWARD THAN USUAL..
WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK, ŠÁRKA?
DOESN'T MATTER. JUST GIVE US YOUR IMPRESSIONS!
ME? BUT I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WAR..
BY THE WAY, WHERE ARE YOU AT NOW WITH THE BOHEMIAN THRONE?
BAH, THAT'S NORMAL AT THE BEGINNING..
LOOK, ŽIŽKA..
HA HA HA! NOT BAD!

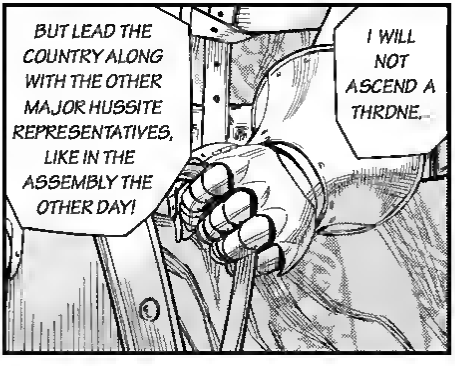
THE KING OF POLAND REFUSED THE CROWN.


SO, GIVEN THE SUPPORT THAT I DO HAVE...
WHILE YOU WERE RECOVERING, MORE THAN HALF THE ARISTOCRACY JOINED THE CATHOLIC CAMP!

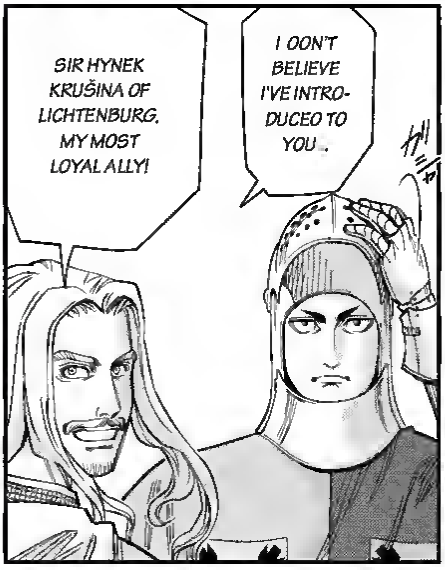

IMPOS-SIBLE!
LAI LAI
IN THAT CASE, WHAT IF YOU ASSUME POWER BY MARRYING QUEEN ŽOFIE?


REPUBLIC?
I WAS THINKING MORE OF A REPUBLIC!

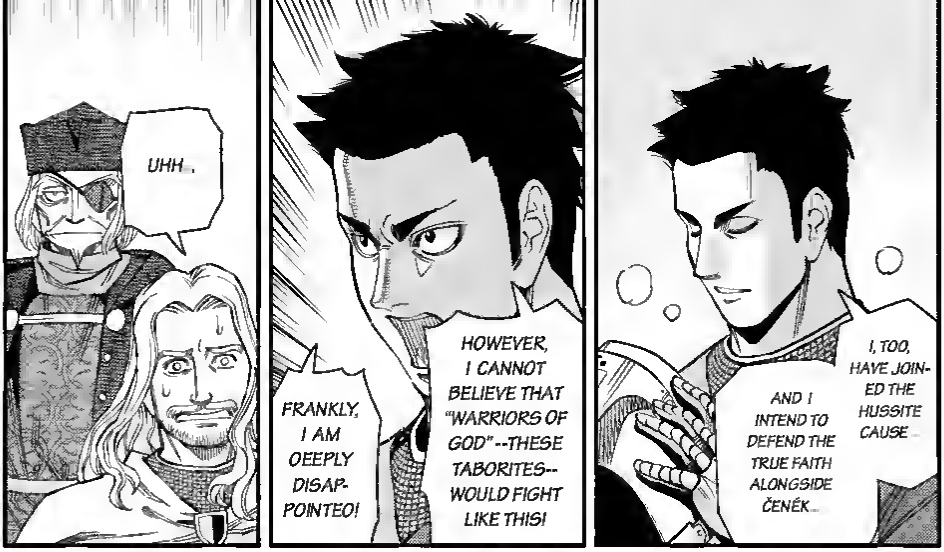
I SEE..
SIMILAR TO THE ITALIAN COMMUNES THEN-.

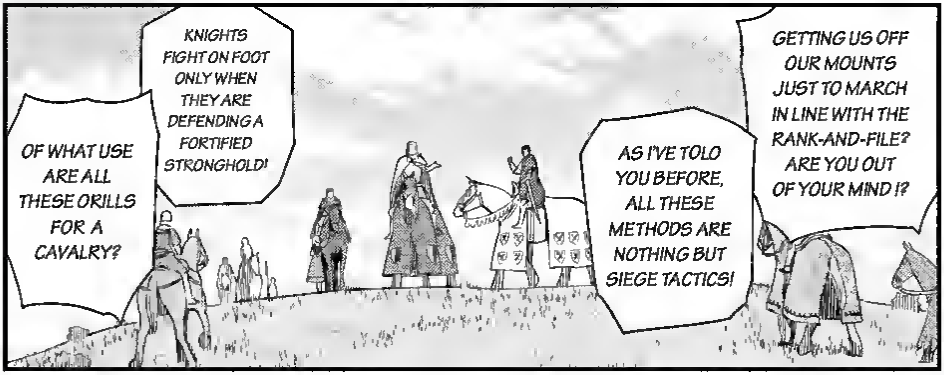

BUT LEAD THE COUNTRY ALONG WITH THE OTHER MAJOR HUSSITE REPRESENTATIVES, LIKE IN THE ASSEMBLY THE OTHER DAY!
I WILL NOT ASCEND A THRONE.

IT SEEMS THIS MAN HAS A GIFT FOR RECONCILING REALITY WITH HIS IDEALS!
I'LL LEAVE YOU TO DEAL WITH THE POLITICS!
FINE BY ME...
I THINK A REPUBLIC IS THE SYSTEM WHICH BEST REFLECT THE TENETS OF THE HUSSITE MOVEMENT!
THE FAITHFUL ARE ALL EQUAL BEFORE GOD.


SIR HYNEK KRUŠINA OF LICHTENBURG, MY MOST LOYAL ALLY!
I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE INTRODUCED TO YOU..

LORD WARTENBERG!
I THINK HE'D MAKE A GOOD KING MYSELF...
HAIL THERE, MY FRIEND!


UHH...
FRANKLY, I AM DEEPLY DISAP-POINTED!
HOWEVER, I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT "WARRIORS OF GOD"--THESE TABORITES--WOULD FIGHT LIKE THIS!
I, TOO, HAVE JOIN-ED THE HUSSITE CAUSE...
AND I INTEND TO DEFEND THE TRUE FAITH ALONGSIDE ČENĚK...


OF WHAT USE ARE ALL THESE DRILLS FOR A CAVALRY?
KNIGHTS FIGHT ON FOOT ONLY WHEN THEY ARE DEFENDING A FORTIFIED STRONGHOLD!
AS I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE, ALL THESE METHODS ARE NOTHING BUT SIEGE TACTICS!
GETTING US OFF OUR MOUNTS JUST TO MARCH IN LINE WITH THE RANK-AND-FILE? ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND!?

CAN WE REALLY WIN WITH THESE TACTICS!?
ŽIŽKA, EXPLAIN YOURSELF!
PEASANTS AND KNIGHTS DO NOT GOOD BEDFELLOWS MAKE...
FINDING COMMON GROUND WON'T BE EASY, I'LL ADMIT!
THINGS LOOK PRETTY HEATED UP THERE...
WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY!?
AT LEAST YOU'RE DOIN' SOME-THING WHEN YOU'RE ON FOOT!
SO YOU BLOCKHEADS ARE TOO GOOD TO BE MOWED DOWN BY THE PEASANTRY!

OUR TRAINING EXERCISES HAVE LOOSENED THE GROUND SO MUCH...
THE FARMERS ARE MAKING THE MOST OF IT BY RUNNING THEIR PLOUGHS!
HUH?
YOU'RE STANDING ON FALLOW LAND!
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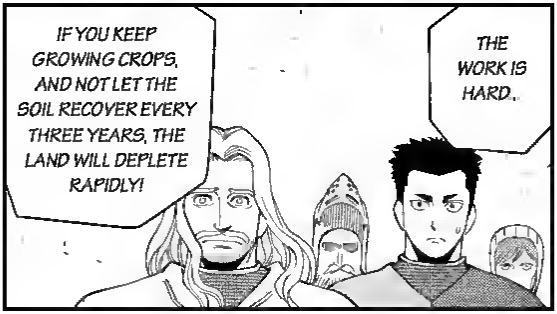
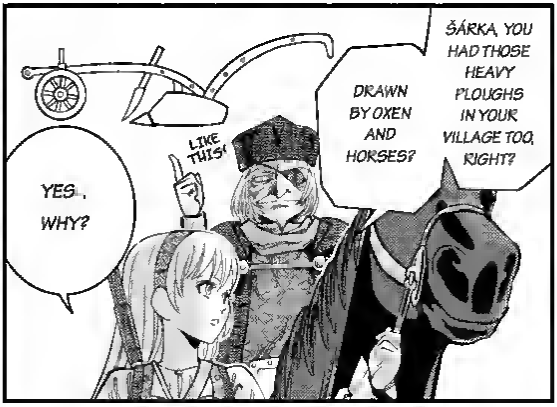
TAKE A LOOK DOWN AT YOUR FEET!

THESE TOOLS ARE POWERFUL, BUT ALSO VERY UNWIELDY.
IF THE ENTIRE FIELD IS TO BE FULLY UTILIZED, THE FURROWS NEED TO BE DUG AS STRAIGHT AS POSSIBLE!
WHAT HAS ANY OF THIS GOT TO DO WITH WAR!?


THE WORK IS HARD...
IF YOU KEEP GROWING CROPS, AND NOT LET THE SOIL RECOVER EVERY THREE YEARS, THE LAND WILL DEPLETE RAPIDLY!

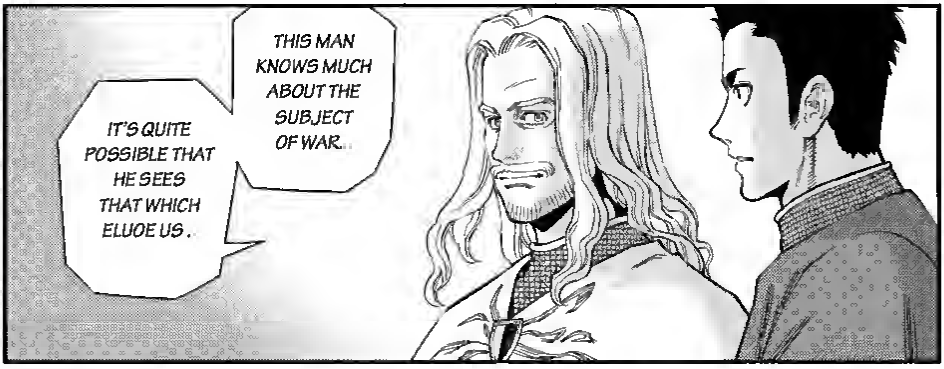

ŠÁRKA, YOU HAD THOSE HEAVY PLOUGHS IN YOUR VILLAGE TOO, RIGHT?
DRAWN BY OXEN AND HORSES?
LIKE THIS!
YES... WHY?

EVERYONE GETS INVDLVED IN THE LABOUR..
THE WDRK IN THE FIELDS IS OFTEN DONE COMMUNALLY..
IS THAT PEASANTS ARE TRAINED TO FDLLOW DRDERS AND ACT IN TIME ACCDRDINGLY!
AS A RESULT, WHAT I'VE NDTICED SINCE I FDRMED THE TABORITE ARMY..
ARE YOU SAYING THAT THEY ARE BETTER AT FIGHTING THAN WE ARE!?
HA HA HA!
HOW IS THIS A BIG DEAL?
...
I SEE..

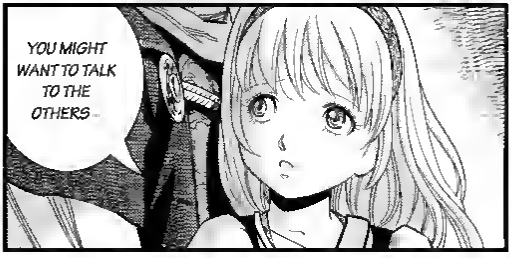
COMBINE THE TWO, AND WE CAN HAVE OURSELVES AN INVINCIBLE FORCE!
AND THE CAVALRY CHARGE AN OFFENSIVE ONE...
MY WAR WAGONS ARE A DEFENSIVE TACTIC...
THERE ARE THINGS THAT ONE CANNOT SEE FROM ATOP A HORSE!
!
IT IS FOR THIS PURPOSE THAT I'VE ORDERED THE KNIGHTS TO GO ON FOOT.

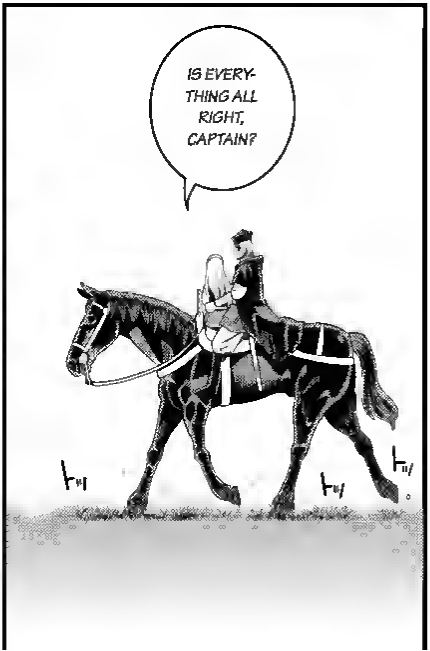
COME, ŠÁRKA, WE'RE GONNA GO SEE A REAL SIEGE BATTLE..
OKAY
I'LL LEAVE YOU TO PONDER IT OVER, THE LESSON'S OVER FOR TODAY!
WAIT!

WELL, SO WHAT!?

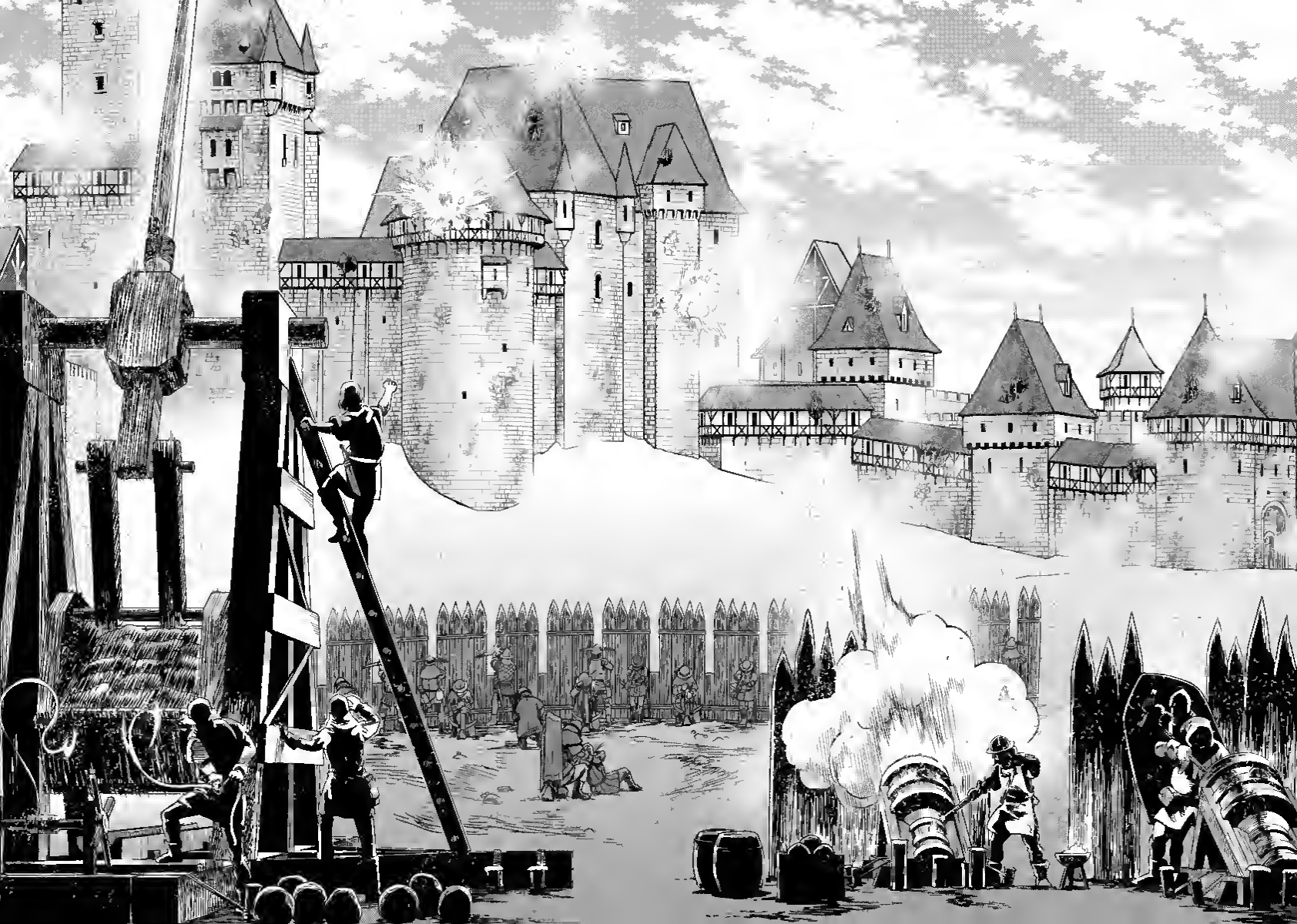

THIS MAN KNOWS MUCH ABOUT THE SUBJECT OF WAR..
IT'S QUITE POSSIBLE THAT HE SEES THAT WHICH ELUDE US.

JISKRA'S ARROW REALLY TOOK IT OUT OF ME!
TO BE HONEST, I'M RATHER TIRED TODAY.


YOU MIGHT WANT TO TALK TO THE OTHERS.


IS EVERY-THING ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN?

DID YOU THINK I WOULDN'T NOTICE!?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
JUST AS LONG AS YOU'RE AROUND TO TAKE CARE OF THE LITTLE THINGS! ♪
♪ LIKE THE REINS!
I MAY BE TOO WEARY TO WALK OR LIFT MY SWORD, BUT IF IT'S GIVING ORDERS ON HORSEBACK, THERE'S NO PROBLEM AT ALL!



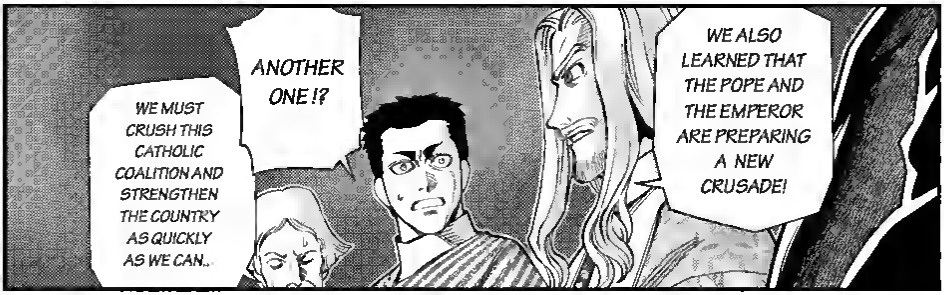
MASTER HROMÁDKA!
THE WIND'S TURNED SINCE YESTERDAY!
ADJUST THE POWDER AMDUNT!
AYE, SIR!
ガラ
HULLO, ŠARKA!
YOU'VE RECOVERED FRDM YDUR INJURIES?
IS THAT THE CASTLE WE'RE BESIEGING?
LET'S JUST SAY I FEEL A LOT LIGHTER AFTER THE CATHEDRAL ROOF FELL ON ME!
EASY NDW, YOU'RE NDT GETTIN' ANY YOUNGER!
YOUNGER THAN YDU!

YES, THE VYŠEHRAD, THE "CASTLE ON THE HEIGHTS" THAT DEFENDS PRAGUE TO THE SOUTH.
BUT WITH THE ENEMY BARRICADED INSIDE, IT'S BECOME A MAJOR WORRY.
DO YOU THINK WE CAN TAKE IT?
...
QUITE FRANKLY, WE WILL STRUGGLE TO DISLODGE THEM!

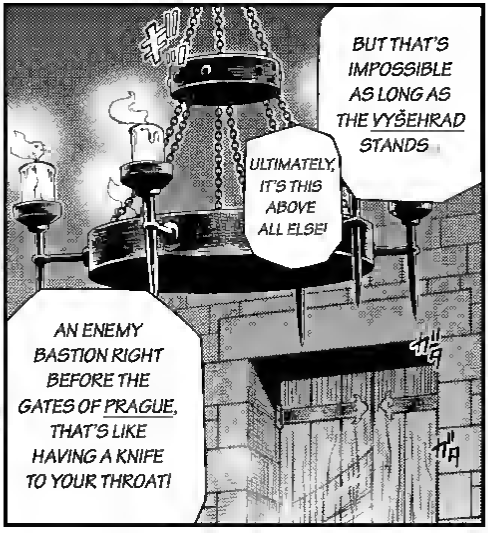
WHAT ABOUT YOUR SIEGE ENGINES?
WE'LL SOON BE SHORT ON POWDER!
OVERUSED, IT HAS TO BE SAID!
THE ONLY WEAK SPOT IS THE EAST GATE, BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, SHE IS WELL FLANKED!
THE WALLS WILL NOT GO DOWN EASILY!
ゴロ ゴロ
ゴロ ゴロ
BUT THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IS THE ENEMY COMMANDER HIMSELF...
JAN VŠEMBERA OF BOSKOVICE IS A REDOUBTABLE OPPONENT!
WHEN WE DEFEATED THE CRUSADERS AT VÍTKOV HILL, WE WERE ABLE TO TAKE PRAGUE CASTLE IN A SURPRISE ATTACK...
THERE HAVE BEEN NO SUCH FLAWS TO EXPLOIT HERE!

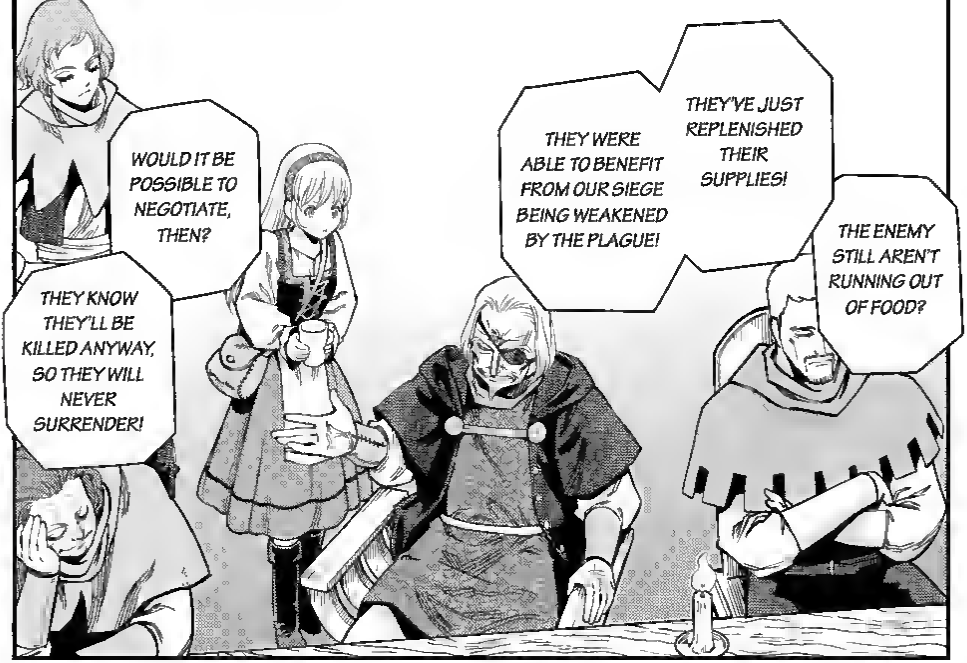
REMDVE YOUR HELMETS!
COMMANDER, WE DESTROYED THEIR BATTERING RAM!
ボオオオ
AAAH!
IT'S ALL BUSTED! RETREAT!
HIS MANNER OF RALLYING THE TROOPS AND DEFENDING THE CASTLE IS SURELY A MODEL TO EMULATE!
THOUGH HE MIGHT KILL HIS OWN MEN FIRST AT THIS RATE!
WE GONNA HOLD THIS SIEGE!
GOOD WORK, MEN!
THANKS CHIEF!
NO PROB!
A "CATHOLIC COALITION" IN BOHEMIA!?
I FEAR HE'LL BE MAKING THINGS DIFFICULT FOR US...

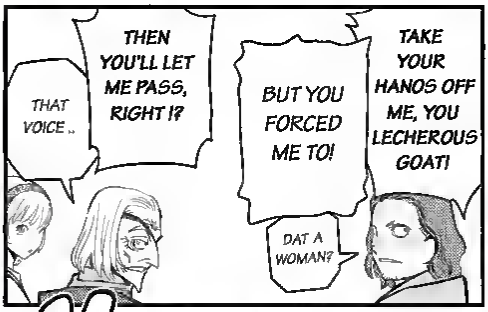
THE HUSSITE TOWNS AND THEIR LEADERS ARE BEGINNING TO WORRY!
YES, IT'S BEING LED BY THE ROŽMBERKS AND ŠVAMBERKS, AND THEIR INFLUENCE GROW STRONGER BY THE DAY...

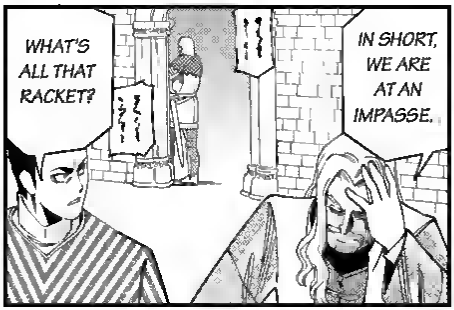

WE MUST CRUSH THIS CATHOLIC COALITION AND STRENGTHEN THE COUNTRY AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN..
ANOTHER ONE!?
WE ALSO LEARNED THAT THE POPE AND THE EMPEROR ARE PREPARING A NEW CRUSADE!

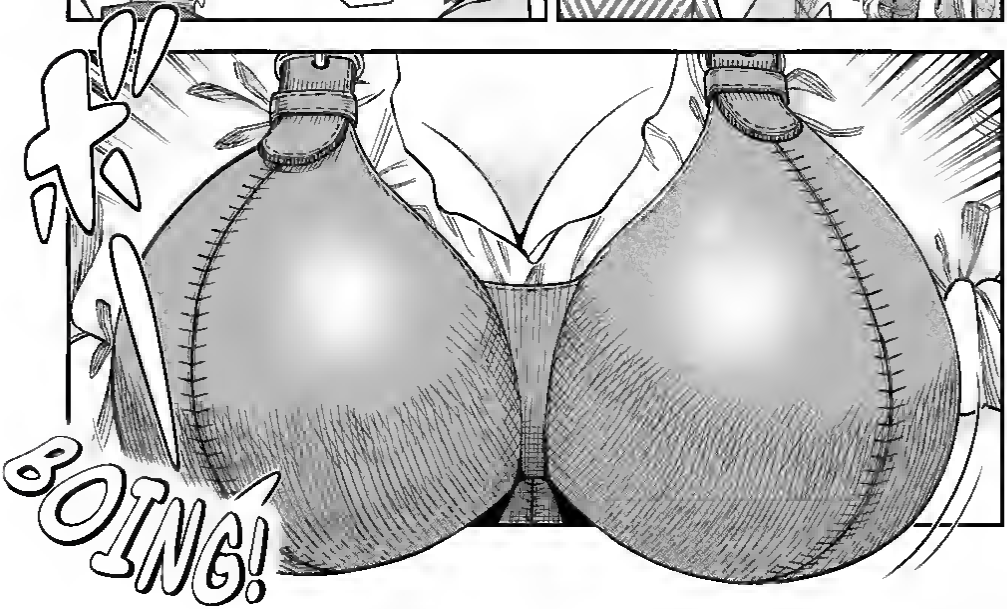
I'M ALREADY DOING EVERYTHING IN MY POWER!
CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS, ŽIŽKA?


BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE AS LONG AS THE VYŠEHRAD STANDS...
ULTIMATELY, IT'S THIS ABOVE ALL ELSE!
AN ENEMY BASTION RIGHT BEFORE THE GATES OF PRAGUE, THAT'S LIKE HAVING A KNIFE TO YOUR THROAT!

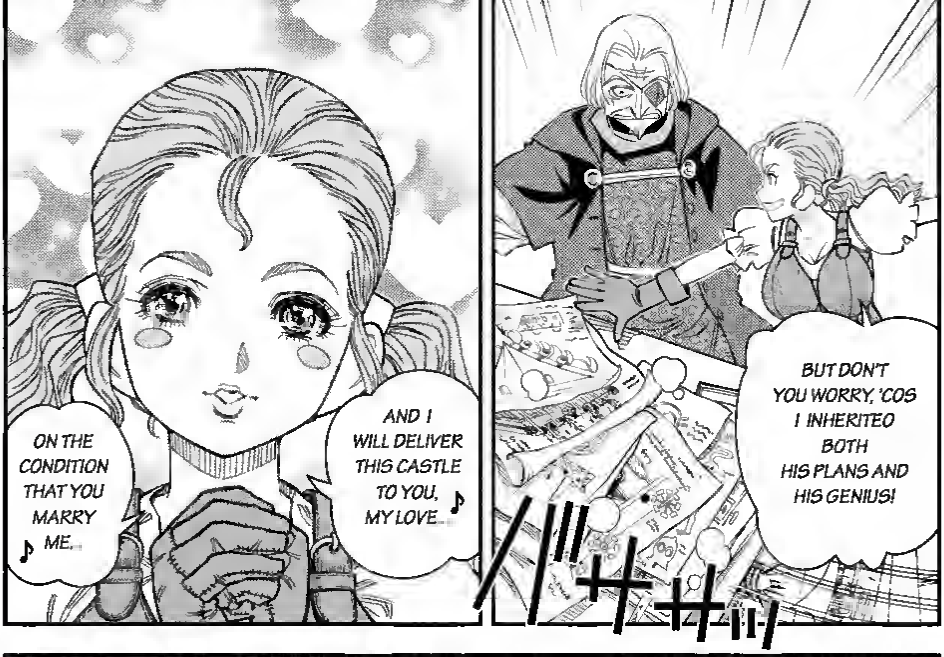

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE, THEN?
THEY KNOW THEY'LL BE KILLED ANYWAY, SO THEY WILL NEVER SURRENDER!
THEY WERE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM OUR SIEGE BEING WEAKENED BY THE PLAGUE!
THEY'VE JUST REPLENISHED THEIR SUPPLIES!
THE ENEMY STILL AREN'T RUNNING OUT OF FOOD?

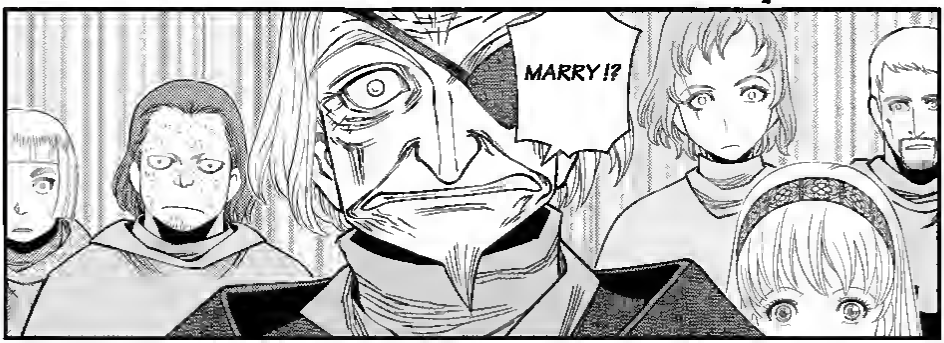

THAT VOICE..
THEN YOU'LL LET ME PASS, RIGHT!?
BUT YOU FORCED ME TO!
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME, YOU LECHEROUS GOAT!
DAT A WOMAN?

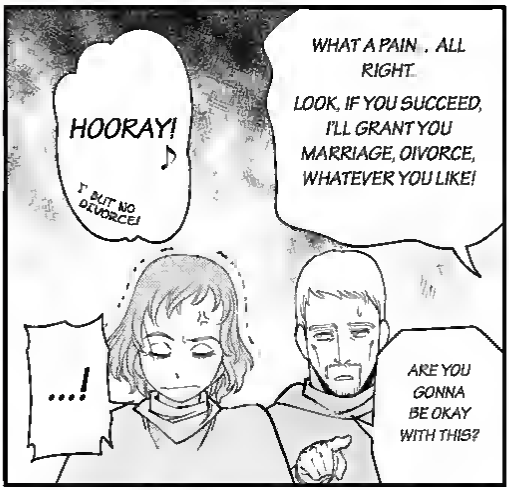

WHAT'S ALL THAT RACKET?
IN SHORT, WE ARE AT AN IMPASSE.

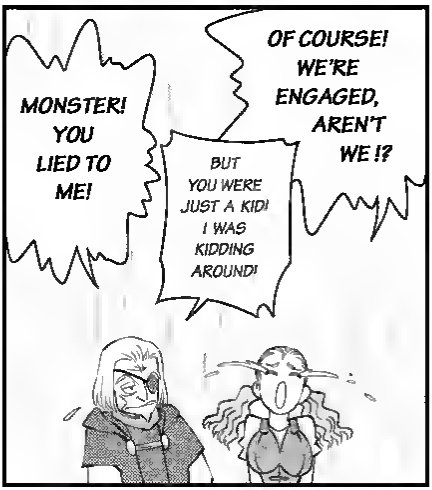

BOING!

NO NEED TO PANIC, FOLKS!
MISS LISELOTTE TO THE RESCUE!
DAYUM CANNON-BALLS!
WHO'S THAT?
WHAA ...!?
WHAT!?
HIS FLYING MACHINE EXPERIMENT DIDN'T WORK!
GRAND-DADDY IS DEAD
JAN, MY LOVE, DID YOU MISS ME?
LISE-LOTTE!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? AND WHERE'S OLD KONRAD!?

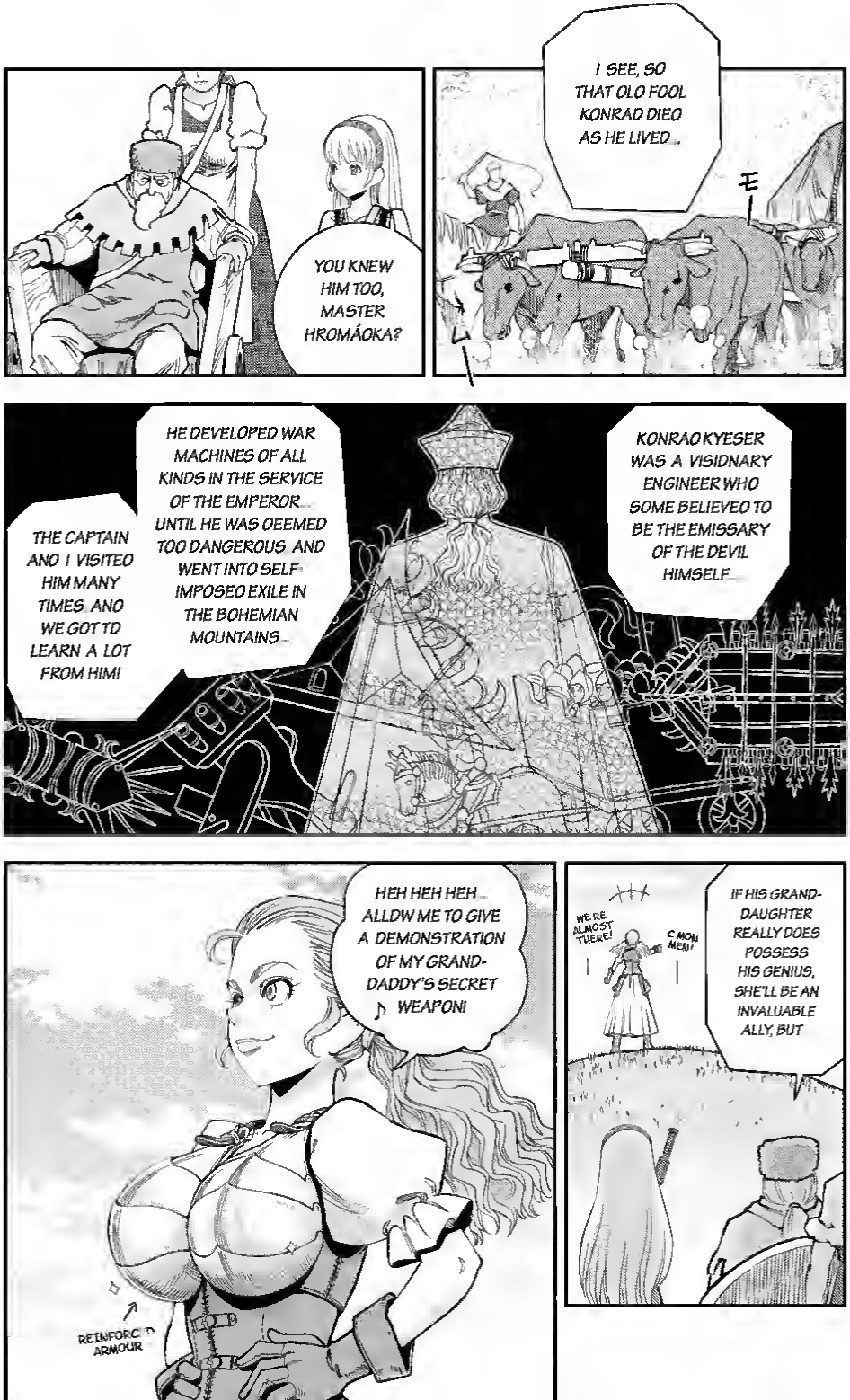

ON THE CONDITION THAT YOU MARRY ME...♪
AND I WILL DELIVER THIS CASTLE TO YOU, MY LOVE...♪
BUT DON'T YOU WORRY, 'COS I INHERITED BOTH HIS PLANS AND HIS GENIUS!

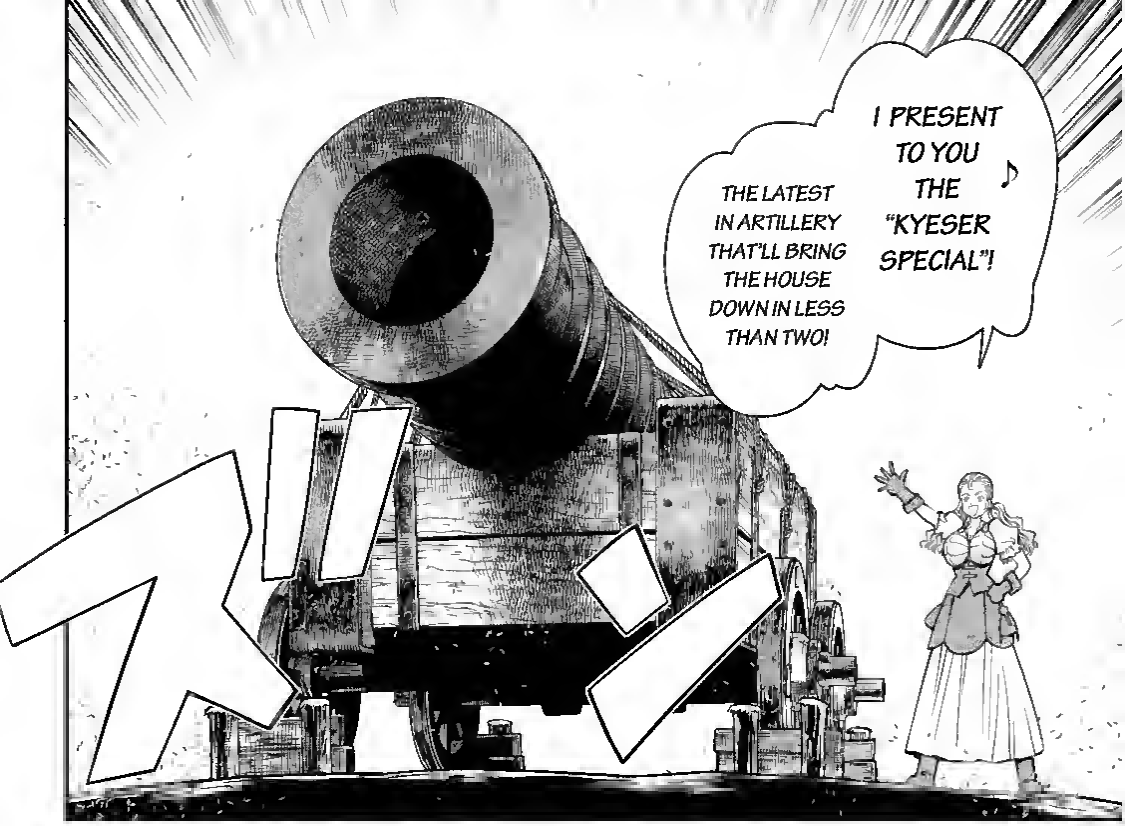

MARRY!?

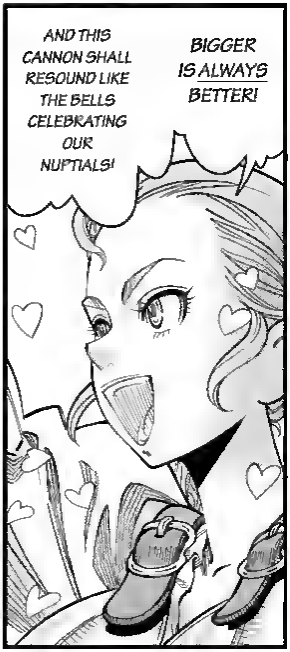

WHAT A PAIN . ALL RIGHT.
LOOK, IF YOU SUCCEED, I'LL GRANT YOU MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, WHATEVER YOU LIKE!
HOORAY! ♪
BUT NO DIVORCE!
...!
ARE YOU GONNA BE OKAY WITH THIS?


MONSTER! YOU LIED TO ME!
OF COURSE! WE'RE ENGAGED, AREN'T WE!?
BUT YOU WERE JUST A KID! I WAS KIDDING AROUND!

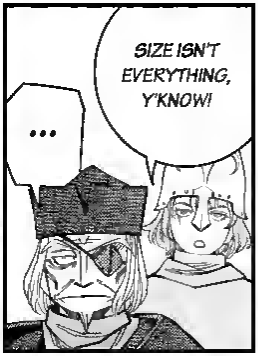
VLASTA !?
FIGHT! FIGHT!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU...
WHY, YOU IDIOTIC ...
BE SO KIND SO AS TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM MY MAN, WOULD YOU?
OH, HEY THERE, VLASTA! STILL KICKIN' AROUND?
PSSHHH
...!
THOSE WERE ALL INFLATED !?
OOPS...
RIDICU-LOUS...

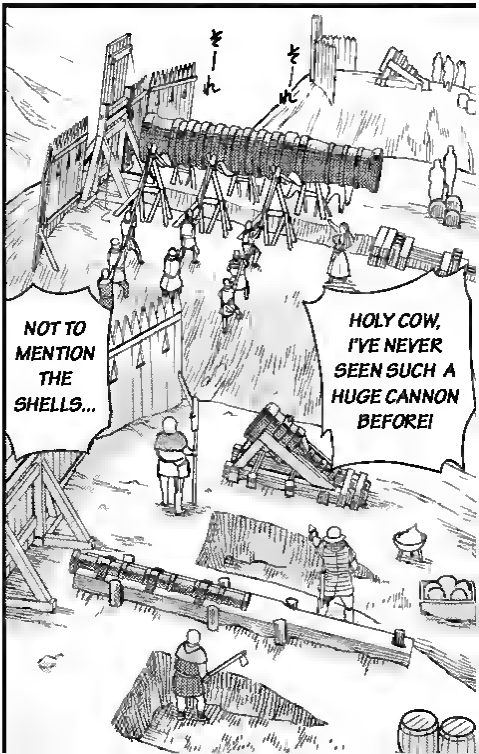

YOU KNEW HIM TOO, MASTER HROMÁDKA?
I SEE, SO THAT OLD FOOL KONRAD DIED AS HE LIVED...
KONRAD KYESER WAS A VISIONARY ENGINEER WHO SOME BELIEVED TO BE THE EMISSARY OF THE DEVIL HIMSELF...
HE DEVELOPED WAR MACHINES OF ALL KINDS IN THE SERVICE OF THE EMPEROR... UNTIL HE WAS DEEMED TOO DANGEROUS AND WENT INTO SELF-IMPOSED EXILE IN THE BOHEMIAN MOUNTAINS...
THE CAPTAIN AND I VISITED HIM MANY TIMES AND WE GOT TO LEARN A LOT FROM HIM!
HEH HEH HEH... ALLOW ME TO GIVE A DEMONSTRATION OF MY GRAND-DADDY'S SECRET ♪ WEAPON!
REINFORCED ARMOUR
WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
C'MON MEN!
IF HIS GRAND-DAUGHTER REALLY DOES POSSESS HIS GENIUS, SHE'LL BE AN INVALUABLE ALLY, BUT


I PRESENT TO YOU THE "KYESER SPECIAL"! ♪
THE LATEST IN ARTILLERY THAT'LL BRING THE HOUSE DOWN IN LESS THAN TWO!
ズ!!


AND THIS CANNON SHALL RESOUND LIKE THE BELLS CELEBRATING OUR NUPTIALS!
BIGGER IS ALWAYS BETTER!

SPECTA-CULAR...


SIZE ISN'T EVERYTHING, Y'KNOW!
...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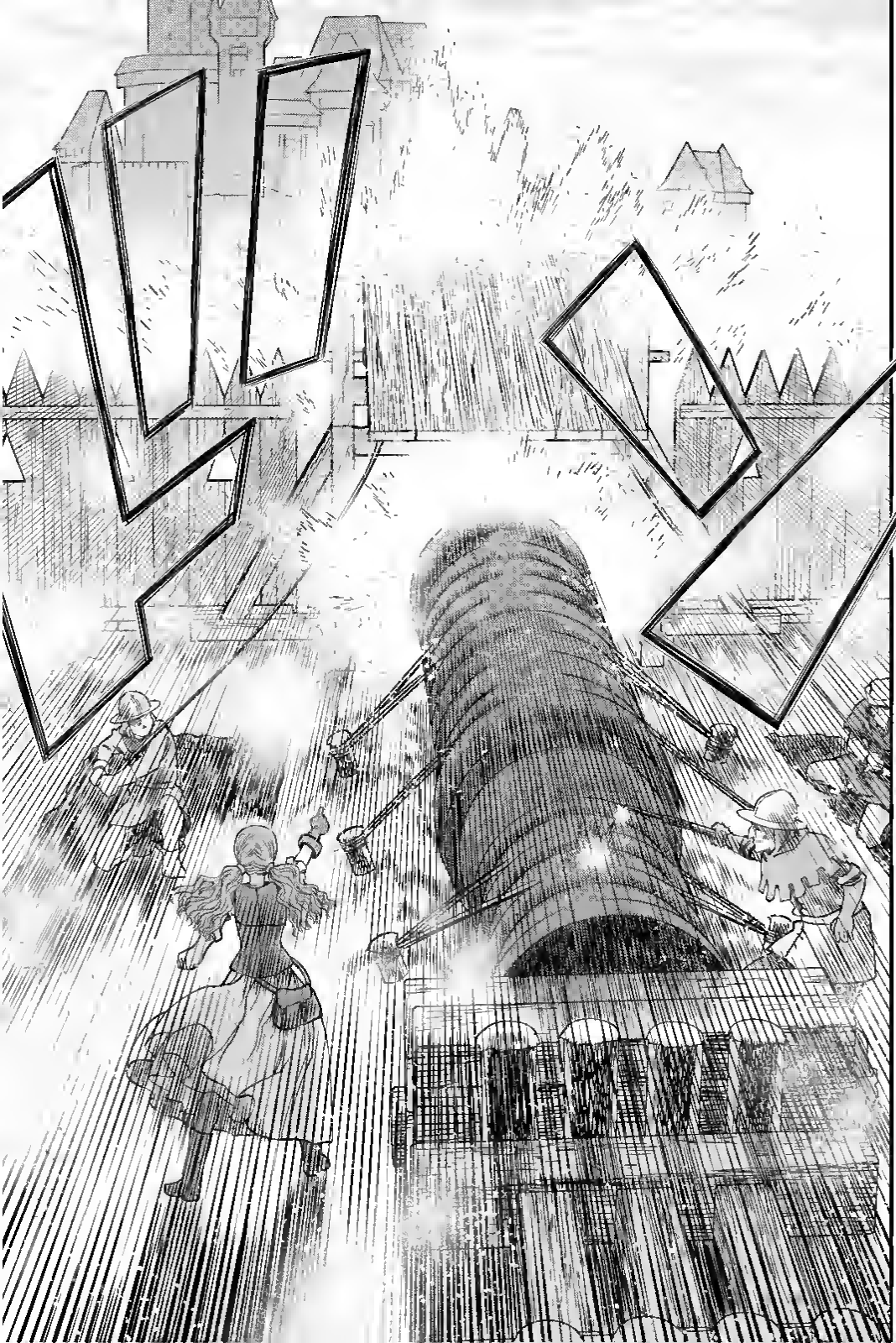
NOT TO MENTION THE SHELLS...
HOLY COW, I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A HUGE CANNON BEFORE!



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OOH, THE POWER!
FAN-TASTIC!
WHAT THE...!?
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CRAP! THE RECOIL KICKED BACK HARDER THAN I THOUGHT!
UHH...
WATCH OUT!
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE!
OOPS.
SHE WON'T BE FIRING NOW..
THAT'S THAT FOR THE CANNON.
THAT'S NOTHIN'! I GOT MORE SECRET WEAPONS UP MY SLEEVE!

ADVANCE, MY INVINCIBLE ARMOURED ASSAULT CARRIAGE II
WE CAN'T CLIMB THE SLOPE, IT'S TOO HEAVY!
ゴロ
ゴロ
ミシャコン
ミシャコン
MY EXPRESS SIEGE TOWER WITH WIND-POWERED LIFT II
AAH, THE WIND'S TIPPING IT OVER!
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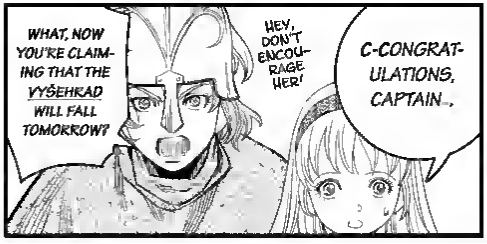
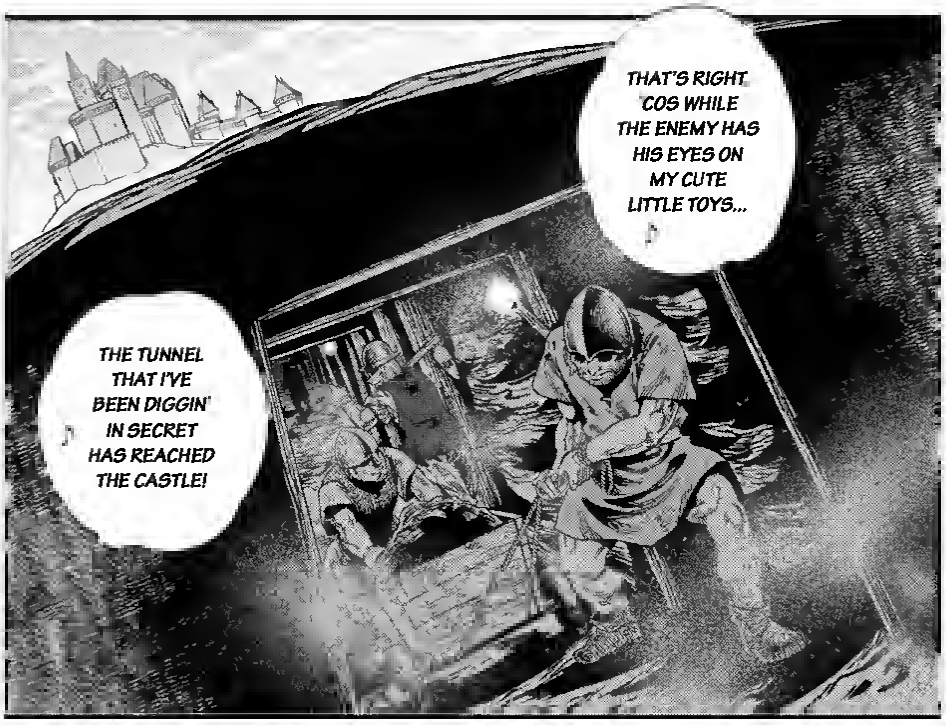
WHAT DELIGHTFUL MACHINE WILL THEY HAVE WITH THEM TODAY?
WHERE? LET'S HAVE A LOOK!
HEY, CHECK IT OUT! HERE COMES ANOTHER WEIRD ONE!
HA HA! HO HO!
THE HECK IS THAT THING?
ガコン
ガコン
THE INFERNAL BATTERING RAM II
ゴロ
ガラ
I MEAN, THEIR TECHNOLOGY IS IMPRESSIVE, BUT...
WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO DO?
TEE HEE! ♪
MISS LISE-LOTTE..
THAT'S TO INSPIRE TERROR IN OUR ENEMIES!
WHAT'S WITH THE GROTTY LOOK?
INSPIRING A LOT OF BIG LAUGHS, MORE LIKE!
ARGH!
THEY SET FIRE TO IT!

WE WILL BE CELEBRATING OUR UNION TOMORROW, MY LOVE!


WHAT, NOW YOU'RE CLAIMING THAT THE VYŠEHRAD WILL FALL TOMORROW?
HEY, DON'T ENCOURAGE HER!
C-CONGRATULATIONS, CAPTAIN...

OH?


THAT'S RIGHT 'COS WHILE THE ENEMY HAS HIS EYES ON MY CUTE LITTLE TOYS...
THE TUNNEL THAT I'VE BEEN DIGGIN' IN SECRET HAS REACHED THE CASTLE!